EX PARTE OR LATE FILED DK-99-45

ORIGINAL RECEIVED

From:

Mary Riddick

To:

"trevorr@avenuea.com"@ROUTE A.GWIA1

Date:

Mon, Jul 12, 1999 12:23 PM

Subject:

Re: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

JUL 2 2 1999

Chairman Kennard requested that I acknowledge and review your comment and that Tellers Dommunications Communications forwarded to the FCC Secretary's Office for association with Docket#99-25. Office of Secretary

>>> Trevor Redfern <trevorr@avenuea.com> 07/09 2:35 PM >>>

To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman,

Commissioner Gloria Tristani.

Commissioner Michael Powell

Commissioner Susan Ness

Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth

Federal Communications Commission

The Portals 455 Twelfth Street S.W. Washington, DC 20554

cc: President Clinton, Hillary Clinton, Vice President Al Gore,

Bill Bradley, and George Bush, Jr.

cc: Microradio Empowerment Coalition

MM Docket No. 99-25

Regarding The Creation of Low Power FM Licenses: RM-9242, RM-9208

Dear Honorable Chairman Kennard,

We are writing to commend you and the Federal Communications Commission for taking action on an issue of great importance to us - ending the 21-year ban on community access to the airwaves. We have become increasingly concerned about the growing concentration of the media in our country and are pleased that the Commission is responding to public outcry to increase opportunities for local communities to use our radio airwaves.

One of the fundamental tenets of our democracy is to ensure that diverse interests have opportunities to express themselves, not merely to be the recipients of what a handful of other people tell them. It is a nonnegotiable component of our right to a free press and free speech.

Radio is perhaps the most qualified of any media outlet to provide community access. It is a relatively inexpensive medium to produce and is well-suited to cover community issues and local culture. Unfortunately, over the past three years the U.S. radio broadcasting industry has experienced an unprecedented wave of consolidation and mergers. As a result, the electronic medium best suited to inexpensive, local programming has become arguably the most regimented and centralized of our major media. Even a multimillionaire would have trouble entering the radio broadcasting industry today, because economies of scale (permitted by deregulation) demand that a firm own numerous stations in several markets to be even remotely competitive. As for the person of average means, their lot is limited to being a passive consumer of an increasingly monopolistic industry that has less and less competitive pressure to heed the diverse, local needs of listeners. And, for poor people and others

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who are considered unimportant to the advertising community, radio increasingly has little to offer. Again, the great tragedy of this situation is that radio is the ideal medium to provide an accessible local service for democratic communications of interest and value to the entire population.

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The strong interest in independent radio stations shows that the creation of low power radio service would have wide public support. The tremendous demand for microradio is demonstrated by the emergence of a national Free Radio Movement, widespread civil disobedience, constitutional challenges of the Commission's aggressively enforced 21-year ban, as well as the proliferation of unlicensed community radio stations supported by local government, whose operators broadcast at the risk of financial losses, seizure of property, arrest, and in some cases, imprisonment.

In addition, the Commission has stated that in the last year alone, 13,000 people inquired regarding the possibility of obtaining a license for low power broadcasting in their communities. In support with the efforts of the Microradio Empowerment Coalition (mec@tao.ca), we urge you to legalize microradio in order to benefit non-commercial community groups whose interest in microradio is to communicate, to educate, and to inform, not to make money. We are confident you agree that broad citizen access to information and culture is at the heart of a democratic society.

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- 4. The Commission should NOT diminish new low-power stations to "secondary status." It would be a tragedy to take away licenses

from low-power community stations just because the Commission subsequently granted a power increase to a pre-existing station or granted a new high power license somewhere nearby.

- 5. The Commission should grant full amnesty for the microbroadcast pioneers who have suffered government seizure and fines. Their property should be returned. They should be granted equal opportunity in applying for and receiving new licenses.
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- 12. Licensing fees should be affordable to all communities.

Again, we commend Chairman Kennard and the Commission for your willingness to address these issues. We are hopeful that the creation of a new class of low power FM radio licensing becomes a reality during the Chairman's present term. We look forward to working on making the airwaves more accessible for our local communities.

Signed,

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Robert W. McChesney-- University Of Illinois, Urbana Noam Chomsky--Massachusetts Institute of Technology Howard Zinn--Professor Emeritus, Boston University Nancy Kranich--Librarian Ron Daniels--Executive Director, Center for Constitutional Rights George Gerbner--Founder, Cultural Environment Movement Edward Herman--Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania Janine Jackson--Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting Mark Crispin Miller--New York University Laura Flanders--national producer for Pacifica Radio David Barsamian--Director, Alternative Radio Stewart Eweb -- Author Elaine Bernard--Harvard Trade Union Program Al Lewis--Organizer ("Grandpa" from the Munsters) Dee Dee Halleck--Deep Dish TV Ben Bagdikian--University of California, Berkeley Loretta Ross--Executive Director, National Center for Human Rights Education Carl Jensen--Founder, Project Censored Ellen Braune--Publicist Jamie Love--Director, Consumer Project on Technology Dan Simon--Founder, Seven Stories Press Juliet Schor--Harvard University Herbert Schiller--Professor Emeritus, University of California, San Diego Barbara Ehrenreich--Author Gloria Steinem--Ms. Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist

-- Trevor Redfern 4223 Fremont Ave N. Seattle, WA 98103

Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

ORIGINAL

RECEIVED

From:

Mary Riddick

To:

"mathiel@michiana.org"@ROUTE_A.GWIA1

Date:

Mon, Jul 12, 1999 12:41 PM

Subject:

Re: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

JUL 2 2 1999

Chairman Kennard requested that I acknowledge and review your comment and that it the school forwarded to the FCC Secretary's Office for association with Docket#99-25.

Office of Secretary

>>> "Mark Thiel" <mathiel@michiana.org> 07/09 7:15 PM >>>

To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman, Commissioner Gloria Tristani,

Commissioner Michael Powell Commissioner Susan Ness

Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth Federal Communications Commission

The Portals 455 Twelfth Street S.W. Washington, DC 20554

cc: President Clinton, Hillary ClintonVice President Al Gore,

Bill Bradley, and George Bush, Jr.

cc: Microradio Empowerment Coalition

MM Docket No. 99-25

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competitive. As for the person of average means, their lot is limited to being a passive consumer of an increasingly monopolistic industry that has less and less competitive pressure to heed the diverse, local needs of listeners. And, for poor people and others who are considered unimportant to the advertising community, radio increasingly has little to offer. Again, the great tragedy of this situation is that radio is the ideal medium to provide an accessible local service for democratic communications of interest and value to the entire population.

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Signed,

Mark A. Thiel 2007 E. Madison South Bend, IN 46617

"...bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness." Isaiah 42"... RMDF < http://dcwi.com/~magee>

mathiel@michiana.org

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

From:

Mary Riddick

To:

"Tessd@pacbeil.net"@ROUTE_A.GWIA1

Date:

Wed, Jul 14, 1999 4:45 PM

Subject:

Re: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

JUL 2 2 19**99**

Chairman Kennard, requested that I acknowledge and review your comment and that it has been

forwarded to the FCC Secretary's Office for association with Docket#99-25.

Federal Communications Commission Office of Secretary

>>> <Tessd@pacbell.net> 07/14 6:09 AM >>>

=To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman,

Commissioner Gloria Tristani, Commissioner Michael Powell Commissioner Susan Ness

Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth Federal Communications Commission

The Portals 455 Twelfth Street S.W. Washington, DC 20554 cc: President Clinton, Hillary Clinton, Vice President Al Gore,

Bill Bradley, and George W Bush cc: Microradio Empowerment Coalition

MM Docket No. 99-25

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Additional Comments=
name=Judith Krain
street=6415 Green Valley Circle #317
city=Culver City
state=CA
zip=90230
=Send to FCC

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

From:

Mary Riddick

To:

"vtt@together.net"@ROUTE_A.GWIA1

Date:

Mon, Jul 12, 1999 12:32 PM

Subject:

Re: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

RECEIVED

DK-99-2

JUL 2 2 1999

Chairman Kennard requested that I acknowledge and review your comment and that it has been forwarded to the FCC Secretary's Office for association with Docket#99-25.

Federal Communications Communication
Office of Secretary

>>> Michael Kreek <vtt@together.net> 07/09 3:42 PM >>>

=To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman,

Commissioner Gloria Tristani.

Commissioner Michael Powell

Commissioner Susan Ness

Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth

Federal Communications Commission

The Portals 455 Twelfth Street S.W. Washington, DC 20554

cc: President Clinton, Hillary Clinton, Vice President Al Gore,

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Additional Comments=
name=Michael Kreek
street=Walpole Valley Rd
city=Walpole
state=NH
zip=03608
=Send to FCC

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED & SG-2 RECEIVED

From:

Mary Riddick

To:

"sbernard@earthling.net"@ROUTE A.GWIA1

Date:

Mon, Jul 12, 1999 12:35 PM

Subject:

Re: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

JUL 2 2 1999

Federal Communications Communication

forwarded to the FCC Secretary's Office for association with Docket#99-25.

>>> Steve Bernard <sbernard@earthling.net> 07/09 6:06 PM >>>

=To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman,

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Commissioner Michael Powell

Commissioner Susan Ness

Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth

Federal Communications Commission

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We are writing to commend you and the Federal Communications Commission for taking action on an issue of great importance to us - ending the 21-year ban on community access to the airwaves. We have become increasingly concerned about the growing concentration of the media in our country and are pleased that the Commission is responding to public outcry to increase opportunities for local communities to use our radio airwaves.

One of the fundamental tenets of our democracy is to ensure that diverse interests have opportunities to express themselves, not merely to be the recipients of what a handful of other people tell them. It is a nonnegotiable component of our right to a free press and free speech.

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The strong interest in independent radio stations shows that the creation of low power radio service would have wide public support. The tremendous demand for microradio is demonstrated by the emergence of a national Free Radio Movement, widespread civil disobedience, constitutional challenges of the Commission's aggressively enforced 21-year ban, as well as the proliferation of unlicensed community radio stations supported by local government, whose operators broadcast at the risk of financial losses, seizure of property, arrest, and in some cases, imprisonment.

In addition, the Commission has stated that in the last year alone, 13,000 people inquired regarding the possibility of obtaining a license for low power broadcasting in their communities. In support with the efforts of the Microradio Empowerment Coalition (mec@tao.ca), we urge you to legalize microradio in order to benefit non-commercial community groups whose interest in microradio is to communicate, to educate, and to inform, not to make money. We are confident you agree that broad citizen access to information and culture is at the heart of a democratic society.

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- 4. The Commission should NOT diminish new low-power stations to "secondary status." It would be a tragedy to take away licenses

from low-power community stations just because the Commission subsequently granted a power increase to a pre-existing station or granted a new high power license somewhere nearby.

- 5. The Commission should grant full amnesty for the microbroadcast pioneers who have suffered government seizure and fines. Their property should be returned. They should be granted equal opportunity in applying for and receiving new licenses.
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- 9. Stations should be locally programmed. However recorded materials such as music, poetry, documentaries, features etc. may be used. Sharing of program materials and resources among micro and community stations is strongly encouraged. No more than 20% of air time from off-site feeds or syndicated tapes.
- 10. Licenses should be awarded to unincorporated non-commercial associations, and non-profit organizations.
- 11. Within two years new spectrum space (including any future digital spectrum space) should be allocated for continued expansion of microradio broadcasters so that any community group that wishes to broadcast has access to available spectrum space (frequencies). Further, all manufacturers of consumer radio receivers for sale in the United States should be required to include this spectrum set aside for microradio broadcasters.
- 12. Licensing fees should be affordable to all communities.

Again, we commend Chairman Kennard and the Commission for your willingness to address these issues. We are hopeful that the creation of a new class of low power FM radio licensing becomes a reality during the Chairman's present term. We look forward to working on making the airwaves more accessible for our local communities.

Signed,

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Steering Committee: Sara Zia Ebrahimi, Philadelphia Diane Fleming, Philadelphia Peter Franck, San Francisco Amanda Huron, Washington, D.C. Alan Korn, San Francisco Greg Ruggiero, New York City

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Additional Comments=
name=Steven P. Bernard Jr.
street=6820 Rattalee Lk. Rd.
city=Clarkston
state=Ml
zip=48348
=Send to FCC

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED OF IGINAL

RECEIVED

From:

Mary Riddick

To:

"seigstew@gte.net"@ROUTE A.GWIA1

Date:

Mon, Jul 12, 1999 12:24 PM

Subject:

Re: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

JUL 2 2 1999

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Chairman Kennard requested that I acknowledge and review your comment and that it has been forwarded to the FCC Secretary's Office for association with Docket#99-25.

>>> "Bobbie" <seigstew@gte.net> 07/09 2:46 PM >>>

To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman,

Commissioner Gloria Tristani,

Commissioner Michael Powell

Commissioner Susan Ness

Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth Federal Communications Commission

The Portals 455 Twelfth Street S.W. Washington, DC 20554

cc: President Clinton, Hillary ClintonVice President Al Gore,

Bill Bradley, and George Bush, Jr.

cc: Microradio Empowerment Coalition

MM Docket No. 99-25

Regarding The Creation of Low Power FM Licenses: RM-9242, RM-9208

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One of the fundamental tenets of our democracy is to ensure that diverse interests have opportunities to express themselves, not merely to be the recipients of what a handful of other people tell them. It is a nonnegotiable component of our right to a free press and free speech.

Radio is perhaps the most qualified of any media outlet to provide community access. It is a relatively inexpensive medium to produce and is well-suited to cover community issues and local culture. Unfortunately, over the past three years the U.S. radio broadcasting industry has experienced an unprecedented wave of consolidation and mergers. As a result, the electronic medium best suited to inexpensive, local programming has become arguably the most regimented and centralized of our major media. Even a multimillionaire would have trouble entering the radio broadcasting industry today, because economies of scale (permitted by deregulation) demand that a firm own numerous stations in several markets to be even remotely competitive. As for the person of average means, their lot is limited to being a passive consumer of an increasingly monopolistic industry that has less and less competitive pressure to heed the diverse, local needs of listeners. And, for poor people and others who are considered unimportant to the advertising community, radio increasingly has little to offer. Again, the great tragedy of this situation is that radio is the ideal medium to provide an accessible local service for democratic communications of interest and value to

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Awarding licenses for new low power FM radio stations would empower local communities with a new public forum to express its many voices, cultures, ideas, and needs. Low power radio stations would create much needed public fora for a variety of groups - including community activists, youth, ethnic and linguistic minorities, the religious community, local artists and cultural associations - and provide a forum for dialogue and debate about important local and public interest issues. These kinds of stations would strengthen community identity in urban neighborhoods, rural towns and other communities which are currently too small to win attention from "mainstream", profit-driven media.

The strong interest in independent radio stations shows that the creation of low power radio service would have wide public support. The tremendous demand for microradio is demonstrated by the emergence of a national Free Radio Movement, widespread civil disobedience, constitutional challenges of the Commission's aggressively enforced 21-year ban, as well as the proliferation of unlicensed community radio stations supported by local government, whose operators broadcast at the risk of financial losses, seizure of property, arrest, and in some cases, imprisonment.

In addition, the Commission has stated that in the last year alone, 13,000 people inquired regarding the possibility of obtaining a license for low power broadcasting in their communities. In support with the efforts of the Microradio Empowerment Coalition (mec@tao.ca), we urge you to legalize microradio in order to benefit non-commercial community groups whose interest in microradio is to communicate, to educate, and to inform, not to make money. We are confident you agree that broad citizen access to information and culture is at the heart of a democratic society.

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- 7. LPFM must be protected and maintained in the future as radio makes the transition from analog to digital broadcasting.
- 8. If the FCC intends to license some commercial stations, they must be licensed last. In this instance, there should be a 2 year "headstart" for non-commercial licenses. The right of citizens to communicate is protected by the Constitution and the FCC's mandate. The right to make money through local radio is not a protection under the FCC's mandate.
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Amanda Huron, Washington, D.C.

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Robert W. McChesney-- University Of Illinois, Urbana

Noam Chomsky--Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Howard Zinn--Professor Emeritus, Boston University

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Elaine Bernard--Harvard Trade Union Program

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Carl Jensen--Founder, Project Censored

Ellen Braune--Publicist
Jamie Love--Director, Consumer Project on Technology
Dan Simon--Founder, Seven Stories Press
Juliet Schor--Harvard University
Herbert Schiller--Professor Emeritus, University of California, San Diego
Barbara Ehrenreich--Author
Gloria Steinem--Ms.
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author
Microradio Empowerment Coalition
Roberta Stewart--Rt. 4, Box 396, Bandon, OR 97411

EX PARTE OR LATE FILE K 99-25

From:

Mary Riddick

To:

"academy@baycove.org"@ROUTE_A.GWIA1

Date:

Mon, Jul 12, 1999 12:22 PM

Subject:

Re: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

JUL 2 2 1999

ORIGINAL RECEIVED

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>>> Bay Cove Academy <academy@baycove.org> 07/09 2:28 PM >>>

=To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman,

Commissioner Gloria Tristani,

Commissioner Michael Powell

Commissioner Susan Ness

Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth

Federal Communications Commission

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Additional Comments= name=Alberto Morales street=29 R Eastburn city=Brighton state=MA zip=02135 =Send to FCC

Alberto Morales--Teacher, Bay Cove Academy